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RENZ D. JENNINGS

CARL J. KUNASEK COMMISSIONER **NEW**



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MICHAEL G. BURTON, SR. DIRECTOR

SECURITIES OF/ISION
1300 West Washington, Third Floor
Phonelly, AZ SEO7-1856
TELEPHONE: (692) 843-424
FAX: (402) 843-424
E-Matt Scores/Second counter, as an

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

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MEMORANDUM

TO:

Commissioner-Chairman Jim Irvin

Commissioner Renz D. Jennings Commissioner Carl J. Kunasek

FROM:

Michael G. Burton, Sr. /W/

Director of Securities

DATE:

November 12, 1998

RE:

United Mortgage Trust

Docket No. S-03304A-98-0000

CC:

Jack Rose, Executive Secretary

Attached is a proposed Order Assessing Administrative Penalty, Offer of Rescission and Consent to Same ("Order") in the matter of United Mortgage Trust ("UMT"). This Order is the product of negotiations between UMT and the Division, which resulted from transactions with Arizona residents in violation of the Arizona Securities Act. UMT has executed the attached "Consent to Entry of Order by the Commission and Waiver of Hearing." This Order includes the assessment of an administrative penalty of five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00).

The facts leading to this Order are as follows:

On July 17, 1997 UMT filed with the Division an application for registration of its securities, by and through its counsel. On August 21, 1997, staff for the Division issued a comment letter to UMT's counsel which described the deficiencies in their filing. On September 2, 1997, UMT's counsel issued a letter to the Division, responding to the deficiencies described in the Division's comment letter.

The Division's records indicate that this response was never received, and that no contact, written or verbal, was made with Division staff regarding the status of UMT's filing, until September of 1998. On August 25 of this year, the Division issued a Notice of

Abandonment pursuant to A.R.S. § 44-1861 to UMT's counsel, after which time UMT's counsel contacted Division staff by telephone.

It appears that, although the Division never issued a Notice of Registration regarding the filing, UMT came to the erroneous conclusion that the Division's comments had been resolved, and that the offering was indeed registered for sale to the public in Arizona. As a result approximately \$169,000.00 worth of UMT's securities were issued to ten (10) Arizona residents, from March through July of this year.

The Order requires that UMT issue an offer of rescission (including interest, in addition to principal) to these ten investors pursuant to A.A.C. R14-4-308. Division staff has reviewed UMT's responses to the comment letter of last year, and has determined that the deficiencies have been corrected; therefore, upon completion of the rescission offer, UMT's securities will be registered for sale to the public. A cashier's check in the amount of \$5,000.00 has also been received by the Division.

UMT has also instituted measures to ensure that unregistered transactions do not reoccur. These steps essentially involve improving communications between UMT, its counsel, and UMT's Selling Group Manager (the lead underwriter of its public offering), on a regular basis, and requiring written confirmation of all registrations prior to starting or resuming sales to the public.

The Division believes this proposed Order and Consent is in the public interest, and recommends its acceptance to the Commission.

Originator: Lee R. Poole

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- On or about August 21, 1997, staff for the Division issued a comment letter to UMT's counsel, describing the deficiencies in UMT's filing.
- 4. On or about September 2, 1997, UMT's counsel issued a letter to the Division, responding to the deficiencies described in the Division's comment letter.
- 5. The Division's records indicate that this response was never received, and that no contact with the Division, orally or in writing, was made with Division staff regarding the status of UMT's offering, for approximately one year following its filing with the Division.
- 6. Although the Division did not issue a Notice of Registration regarding UMT's offering. UMT came to the erroneous conclusion that the Division's comments were resolved, and that the offering was indeed registered for sale to the public in Arizona. As a result, approximately \$169,000,00 worth of UMT's securities were issued to ten (10) Arizona residents, from March through July of 1998.
- 7. Because the Division's records indicated that no response to its comment letter had been received, a notice of abandonment pursuant to A.R.S. § 44-1861.K was issued to UMT's counsel on or about August 25, 1998. At this point, the fact of UMT's unregistered sales of its securities came to light.

III.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Article XV of the Arizona Constitution and pursuant to the Arizona Securities Act. A.R.S. § 44-1801 et seq.
 - 2. UMT offered securities for sale within the definition of A.R.S. § 44-1801(13).
 - 3. UMT offered unregistered non-exempt securities for sale in violation of A.R.S. § 44-1841.

IV.

ORDER

THEREFORE, on the basis of the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law contained in this Order, the Commission finds the following Order is appropriate, in the public interest, and necessary for the protection of investors:

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CONSENT TO ENTRY OF ORDER BY THE COMMISSION

AND WAIVER OF HEARING

UNITED MORTGAGE TRUST ("UMT") acknowledges that it has been fully advised of its right to a hearing to present evidence and call witnesses. UMT waives all hearing procedures and right to appeal provided by the Securities Act of Arizona with respect to this Order Assessing Administrative Penalty, Offer of Rescission and Consent to Same ("Order").

UMT admits the jurisdiction of the Arizona Corporation Commission with respect to matters set forth in this Order and Consent.

UMT neither admits nor denies the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law contained in this Order and Consent and consents to the entry of this Order and Consent.

UMT states that its entry into this Consent to Entry of Order is a voluntary act and that no promise was made nor coercion used to induce UMT to enter into it.

UMT understands that his Consent to Entry of Order does not preclude the Commission or any other agency, officer of this state or its subdivisions, from instituting other civil or criminal proceedings now or in the future.

UNITED MORTGAGE TRUST

Ву:	an	l
Title:	PA.	sident

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO BEFORE me this // day of November

ROSEMARY BELL
Natary Public, State of Terras
My Commission Expines
JUNE 6, 2002

My Commission Expires:

Hosemany Bell NOTARY PUBLIC

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND CONTENT

BERRY MOORMAN P.C.

Attorney for United Mortgage Trust

Robert A. Hudson

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Decision No.